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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

Fernandez, et al.

Assignee:

Individually Held

Title:

"Integrated Network for Monitoring Remote Objects"

Serial No.:

09/823,509

Filed: 03/29/2001

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Examiner:

Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 2613

Attorney Docket No.:

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REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION ON DECISION TO MAKE SPECIAL AND SUPPLEMENT TO PETITION TO MAKE SPECIAL INVENTIONS FOR COUNTERING TERRORISM (37 CFR 1.181(a)(3) and MPEP § 708.02)

Applicants respectfully submit this Request for Reconsideration on the decision to make special mailed on 6/06/03 and this supplement for the original petition filed on March 3, 2003.

According to the decision on Request for Reconsideration, the Director stated that a generic surveillance system does not constitute a specific invention for countering terrorism. Applicants respectfully traverse that the invention is a generic surveillance system that does not directly counter terrorism. By determining an object's visual information through preferably fixed cameras or detectors, and exact location through mobile target units utilizing Global Positioning Satellite system (GPS) receivers, the invention provides a more effective, corroborated surveillance of suspected terrorist activity.

In Director's decision, Director lists a number of examples of inventions that directly relate to countering terrorism. This list includes: systems for detecting/identifying explosives, aircraft sensors/security systems, and vehicular barricades/disabling systems. Here, Applicants contend that the invention is related to the examples listed and therefore, is directly related to countering terrorism. The invention provides a more flexible and scaleable solution for monitoring and processing remote objects according to various more general context and related object conditions. This information processing mechanism would benefit systems for detecting/identifying explosives, aircraft sensors/security systems, and vehicular monitoring. The information gathered from these sensors that detect or monitor terrorist activity needs to be processed before it could be effective in countering terrorism.

As presented in an EE Times article (submitted along with the petition), in order to counter terrorist activity, an expanding group of researchers are working on a nationwide sensor network that could provide a real-time early-warning system for a wide array of chemical, biological and nuclear threats across the United States. The disclosed subject matter of Applicants' invention directly counters terrorism as it relates to remote surveillance and communications technology that will aid this nationwide sensor network for countering

terrorism. In Applicants' specification, the detectors or sensors include medical/biological sensors (page 7) and security detectors (motion, smoke, door or window), which are currently utilized in monitoring various terrorism activities. Applicants' invention provides an information processing mechanism for sensors that monitor terrorist activities and thus, will aid in efforts to counter terrorism. In light of the foregoing arguments, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Dennis Fernandez Reg. No. 34,160